

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/064,531

Examiner

Michael D Masinick

Applicant(s)

BALLAS ET AL.

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/30/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-11,13-18 and 20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 January 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date CURRENT.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Albert W. Paladini
ALBERT W. PALADINI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Frederick Gibb III on July 13, 2004.

Replace claim 8 with the following:

8. A method of reserving manufacturing capacity to satisfy a customer deliverable order for a product using a computerized system, said method comprising:

inputting said customer deliverable order to a relational database tool within said computerized system;

automatically obtaining a block of part numbers from unallocated part numbers in a product manager tool that is operatively connected to said relational database tool, so as to allocate manufacturing capacity for said customer deliverable order;

automatically preparing a bill-of-materials in said relational database tool to satisfy said customer deliverable order using part numbers from said block of part numbers; and

beginning manufacturing of sub-components corresponding to said bill-of-materials before design of said product is completed.

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Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-18, and 20 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Van Huben in view of Beasley shows a method of reserving manufacturing capacity using a database system similar to the current invention, neither this reference taken alone or in combination with the prior art of record disclose automatically obtaining a block of part numbers from unallocated part numbers in a product manager tool that is operatively connected to said relational database tool, so as to allocate manufacturing capacity for said customer deliverable order; automatically preparing a bill-of-materials in said relational database tool to satisfy said customer deliverable order using part numbers from said block of part numbers; and beginning manufacturing of sub-components corresponding to said bill-of-materials before design of said product is completed. It is these three steps, in combination with the remaining elements and features of the invention, that the applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Drawings

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Page 2 (Figure 2) is missing from the drawings. Examiner is not able to determine if this was a fault of the scanning process or if this drawing was left out of the amended drawings as filed. In order to make sure everything is correctly in order, a replacement drawing of Figure 2 in this case is requested. Preliminary drawing 2 has been approved.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael D Masinick whose telephone number is (703) 305-7738. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard can be reached on (703) 308-0538. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MDM

Albert W. Paladini 7-20-07
ALBERT W. PALADINI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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